

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Claims 1, 4, 9-14, 16, 19, 30, 32, 35 and 46-52 were pending prior to the final Office Action. In this reply, claims 46-52 are cancelled and the features thereof are incorporated into the corresponding independent claims. Therefore, claims 1, 4, 9-14, 16, 19, 30, 32 and 35 are pending. Claims 1, 4, 9, 11, 12, 14 and 30 are independent.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant appreciates that claims 46-52 are indicated to define allowable subject matter.

FORM 1449 ACKNOWLEDGMENT REQUESTED

Applicant has not yet received the initialed copies of the PTO-1449 Forms for the Information Disclosure Statements filed on September 7, 2000 and August 4, 2003. Applicant respectfully requests that such forms be provided.

OBJECTION TO THE SPECIFICATION

The specification, and more specifically the Title of the Invention is objected to for minor informalities. The Title is amended to address this issue.

Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

§ 102 REJECTION – KASUYA

Claims 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Kasuya (U.S. Patent 6,134,390). Applicant respectfully traverses.

In the Office Action, claim 46 is indicated as defining allowable subject matter. Independent claim 9 is amended to include the feature recited in claim 46. Therefore, claim 9 is allowable.

Claim 10 depends from independent claim 9. Thus, for at least due to the dependency thereon, claim 10 is also allowable.

Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 9 and 10 based on Kasuya be withdrawn.

§ 103 REJECTION – KASUYA, UCHIDA, MASUNAGA

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kasuya in view of Uchida (U.S. Patent 5,929,904) and Masunaga et al. (U.S. Patent 5,838,368). Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claim 47 is indicated to define allowable subject matter. Independent claim 1 is amended to incorporate the features of claim 47. Therefore, claim 1 is allowable.

Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 1 based on Kasuya, Uchida and Masunaga be withdrawn.

§ 103 REJECTION – YU, KASUYA

Claims 11-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Yu (U.S. Patent 5,434,621) in view of Kasuya. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claim 49 is indicated as defining allowable subject matter in the Office Action. Independent claim 11 is amended to incorporate the features of claim 49. Therefore, independent claim 11 is allowable.

Claim 50 is indicated to define allowable subject matter. Independent claim 12 is amended to incorporate the features of claim 50. Therefore, claim 12 is also allowable.

Claim 13 depends from independent claim 12. Therefore, for at due to the dependency thereon, claim 13 is also allowable.

Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 11-13 based on Yu and Kasuya be withdrawn.

§ 103 REJECTION – KASUYA, UCHIDA, MASUNAGA

Claims 4, 14, 16, 19, 28-30, 32, 35, 44 and 45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Kasuya in view of Uchida and in further view of Masunaga. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Regarding claims 28-29 and 44-45, these claims were cancelled in the previous Reply submitted on August 8, 2005.

Claims 48, 51 and 52 are indicated to define allowable subject matter in the Office Action. Independent claims 4, 14 and 30 are amended to incorporate the features of claims 48, 51 and 52, respectively. Therefore, independent claims 4, 14 and 30 are allowable.

Claims 16, 19, 32 and 35 depend from independent claims 14 and 30 directly or indirectly. Therefore, the dependent claims are also allowable.

Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 4, 14, 16, 19, 28-30, 32, 35 and 44-45 based on Kasuya, Uchida and Masunaga be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

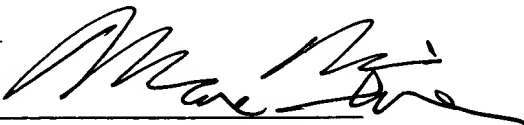
All objections and rejections raised in the Final Office Action having been addressed. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Hyung Sohn (Reg. No. 44,346), to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: **JAN. 30, 2006**

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